

Claims

1. Cutter apparatus for use in cutting sheet material; comprising an upper part (10) and a lower part (11); a blade and holder means
5 (13) extending between the parts and forming the sole connection between the parts and provided with a cutting means (15), the upper part (10) comprising a body adapted for manual manipulation, characterised in that the lower part (11) and upper part (10) provide surfaces on opposed faces thereof,
10 a gliding surface on the underside the lower part (11) and a sheet guide surface (11a) on the upper side thereof for guiding the sheet between the parts (10 and 11) and for presenting the sheet to the cutting means (13) for cutting.
2. Cutter apparatus according to claim 1, characterised in that the
15 cutting means comprises a blade with a leading cutting edge (15).
3. Cutter apparatus according to claim 1, characterised in that further tensioning means is provided in a zone around the blade means (13), at least in front of the blade means (13) in the form
20 of protrusions (17, 18) on either the upper (10) or lower (11) parts of the apparatus.

4. Cutter apparatus according to claim 1, characterised in that the cutting means (13) includes a ploughshare or wedge or other shaped part, which guides the cut edges of the sheet to part and rise and acts to soften the cut edges of the sheet to avoid skin cuts.
5. Cutter apparatus according to claim 3, characterised in that said tensioning means are further provided to each side of and extending behind the blade means (13).
6. Cutter apparatus according to claim 3, 4, or 5 wherein the protrusions (17, 18) are provided one to each side of the blade means (13), and are contoured to guide the paper by means of a curved lead-in surface 23.
7. Cutter apparatus according to any one of claims 3 to 6, characterised in that the protrusions (17, 18) are formed as ridges of rounded profile.
8. Cutter apparatus according to any preceding claim wherein the lower part (11) of the apparatus is provided with notches or channels (19, 20) for cooperating with a rule or straight edge or other template to guide the cutter.
9. Cutter apparatus according to any preceding claim wherein the upper part (10) of the apparatus comprises a plastics shell in the form of an eccentric flattened ovoid.

10. Cutter apparatus according to claim 9 wherein the upper part (10) has a transparent window (15) in the front thereof.
11. Cutter apparatus according to any preceding claim wherein the lower part (11) is in the form of a generally horse-shoe shaped shoe.
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12. Cutter apparatus according to any preceding claim wherein the blade means (13) comprises a blade and holder combination which presents the cutting edge (15) towards the direction from which paper is presented thereto.
- 10 13. Cutter apparatus for use in cutting sheet material substantially as hereinbefore described, with reference to and as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.